What does it mean to be a new Petty Officer in the United States Navy today? That is just one of the hundreds of questions answered this week during the Petty Officer Indoctrination Course at Camp Covington, Guam. Eighteen newly selected, hard charging Third Class Petty Officers were instructed on numerous subjects, all to be used as tools in their new leadership tool box.

Responsibilities of a new Petty Officer, Elements of Leadership, Human Behavior, Standards in the U.S. Navy and Your Place in Naval History are just a sampling of the subjects explored during the week.

Although not always exciting, this course is one of the most important evolutions in all of our careers. Those of us who have 'been there, done that', all remember the first time being called 'Petty Officer', and the pride and sense of accomplishment that accompanied that statement.

These are the new leaders of our Navy and our country. They are the future Chiefs and Officers of our longstanding and proud organization. Recognize their achievement and offer hearty congratulations. They just may soon out run you in the Chain of Command.